

Judge Wallace Taylor Estill County Judge Executive

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street NW Washington, DC 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch,

As County Judge Executive of Estill County, Kentucky, a rural Appalachian county, which has been traditionally underserved by all forms of electronic media, I strongly urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to continue working with both the GPS community and LightSquared to design a solution where both GPS and 4G-LTE services can co-exist.

The FCC has an excellent opportunity here to take a step that will help improve the quality of life and safety of rural residents throughout our nation. In rural areas in our nation today, we are fighting a battle against crime and poverty. Our current economic crisis does not make that battle any easier to fight. But with the right technology, we can improve the lives of our rural residents by bringing them reliable emergency services, including reliable law enforcement and emergency medical services. Part of the right technology is good, high speed, wireless internet service. As head of the county government of Estill County, I have learned that rural development is often hampered by the lack of good information technology.

LightSquared's integrated satellite-terrestrial network will greatly increase access to wireless broadband for the 26 million American who lack it, particularly in rural areas. The company is a long-standing satellite communications provider to the public safety and homeland security community, and the new network's ability to reach remote areas and provide seamless secure connectivity will be of great benefit to first responders, healthcare workers and emergency response personnel, particularly in rural counties like mine.

As a wholesale provider, LightSquared will allow smaller wireless providers to offer world-class service and also enable many new competitors to enter the wireless market. Competition brings innovation, greater customer choice and lower prices. LightSquared's network also



will bring much-needed investment in the U.S. economy, creating 15,000 jobs a year during its buildout.

Congress and the Administration correctly reasoned that providing 47.2 billion in Broadband Stimulus grants would expand broadband access and ultimately "increase jobs, spur investments in technology and infrastructure, and provide long-term economic benefits," in communities across America. The LightSquared network would provide many of these same benefits—except that it would not cost the American people a single taxpayer dime to reap those benefits.

Rural counties such as mine are suffering in today's economy in part because our citizens do not have access to the information infrastructure available in more populous areas. As someone who understands the impact of technology on rural America, and who is fighting every day for economic development in rural America, I urge the FCC to allow both traditional GPS service and LightSquared's service to co-exist in the marketplace. Rural America will thank you for it.

Very truly yours,

Wallace Taylor

Estill County Judge Executive